

NOAA Climate Science & Services

Monthly Climate Update

A look back at January and a preview for the next 3 months

Jake Crouch

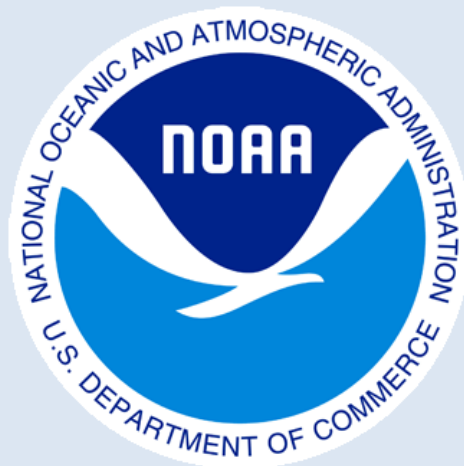
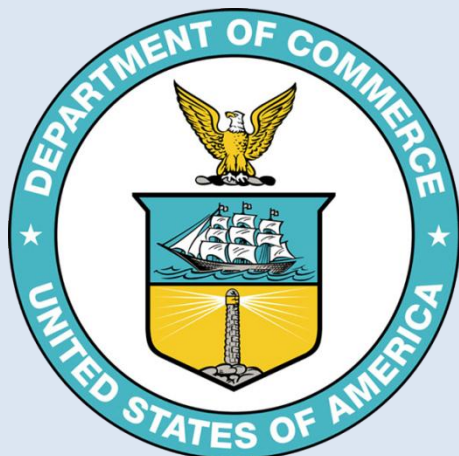
Climate Scientist, Climate Monitoring Branch,
NOAA's National Climatic Data Center

Ed O'Lenic

Chief, Operations Branch,
NOAA's Climate Prediction Center
1-Month Forecaster

Dan Collins

Research Scientist, Operations Branch
NOAA's Climate Prediction Center
3-Month Forecaster



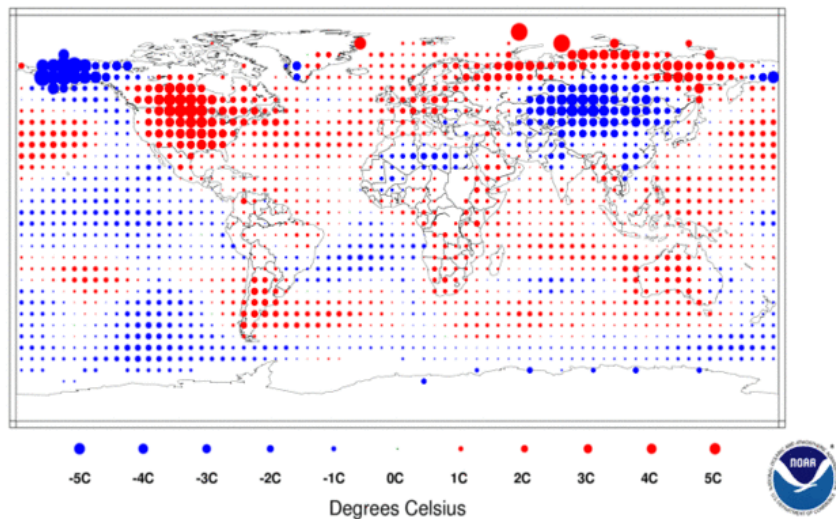
February 16, 2012

Global Climate Highlights

Temperature Anomalies January 2012

(with respect to a 1971-2000 base period)

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



January 2012 Temperatures:

- 19th warmest January globally
- Land: 26th warmest; Ocean: 17th warmest
- Large areas of warm and cool temperature anomalies
- La Niña continues

National Stats

- U.K – warmest January since 2006
- Australia – 13th coolest January on record

January 2012 Precipitation:

- Monsoonal rains across Australia
- Tropical Cyclones: Mozambique and Indonesia

Wet:

- Central and Eastern Europe, Southern U.S., Southeast Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, southeast Africa

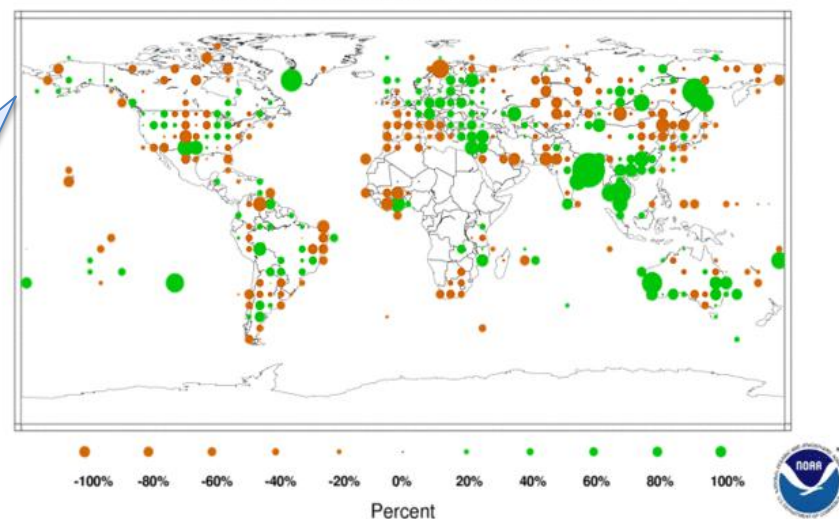
Dry:

- Northern Canada, north central U.S., eastern Brazil, Chile, Sweden, South Africa

Precipitation Anomalies January 2012

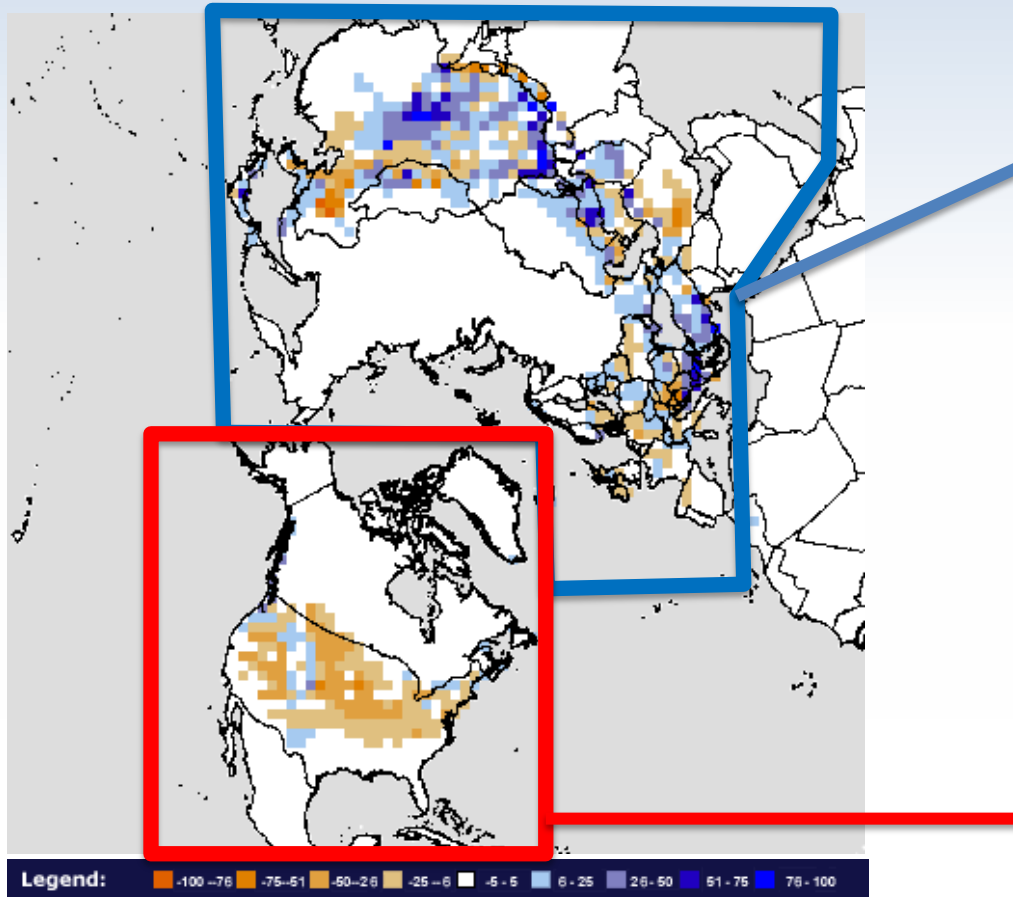
(percent departures with respect to a 1961-1990 base period)

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



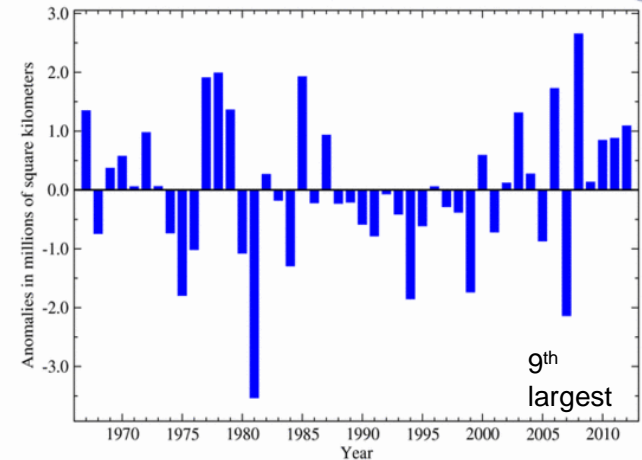
Global Climate Highlights

Northern Hemisphere Snow Cover Anomalies

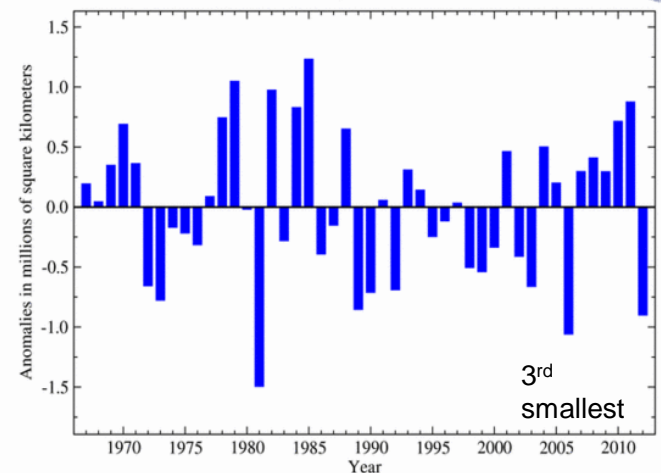


* Data/map provided by Rutgers Global Snow Lab

Eurasia Snow Cover Anomalies
January (1967-2012)



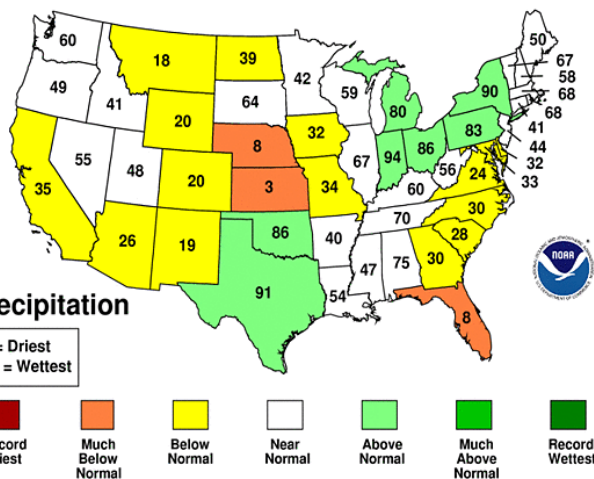
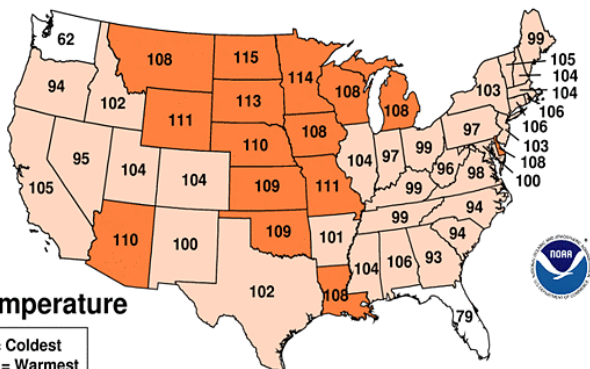
North America Snow Cover Anomalies
January (1967-2012)



U.S. Climate Highlights - January

January 2012 Statewide Ranks

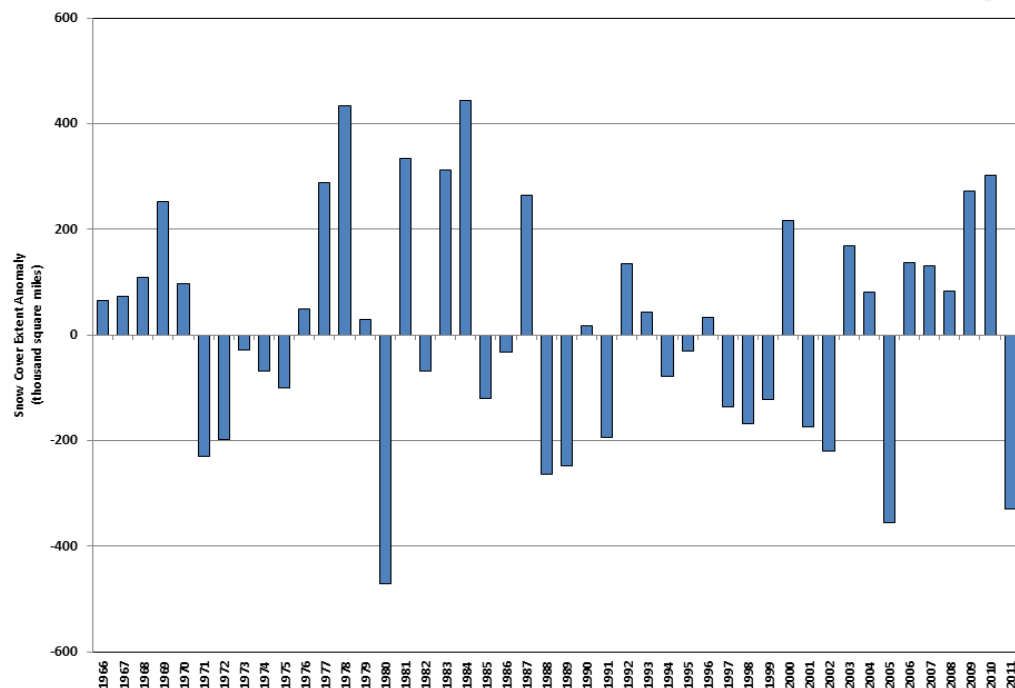
National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



4th Warmest January on Record

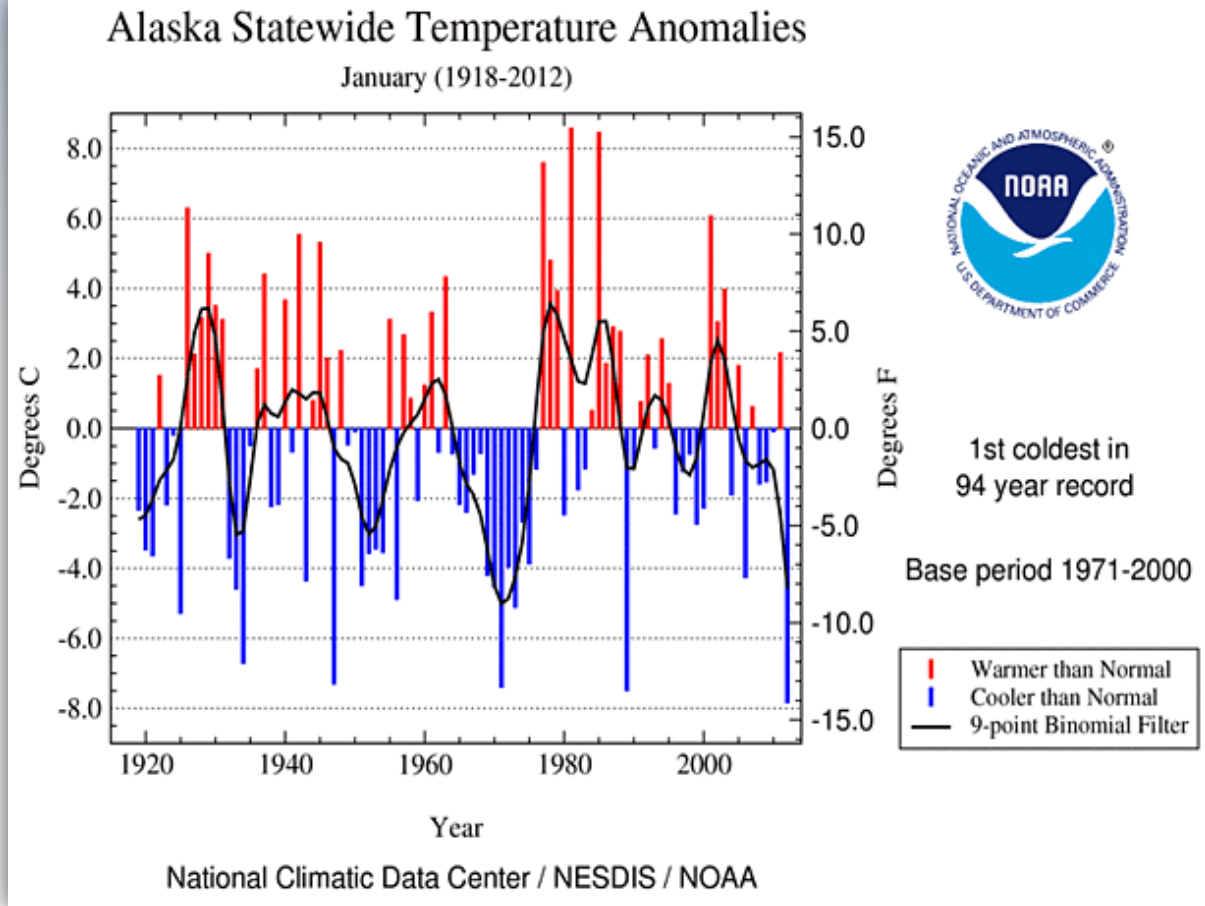
- Dry across the central U.S. and the Southeast
- Wet in the Southern Plains and Great Lakes
- The combination of warm and dry conditions limited snow cover across the Lower-48
- Active tornado month – 95 preliminary reports

January U.S. Snow Cover Anomalies



Alaska Record Cold January: 14.04°F below average

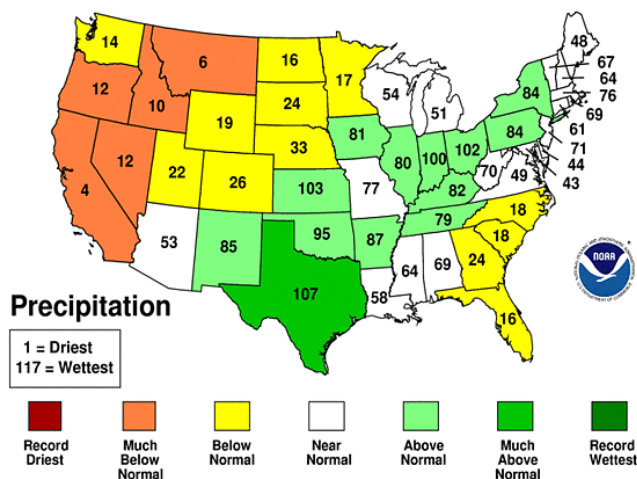
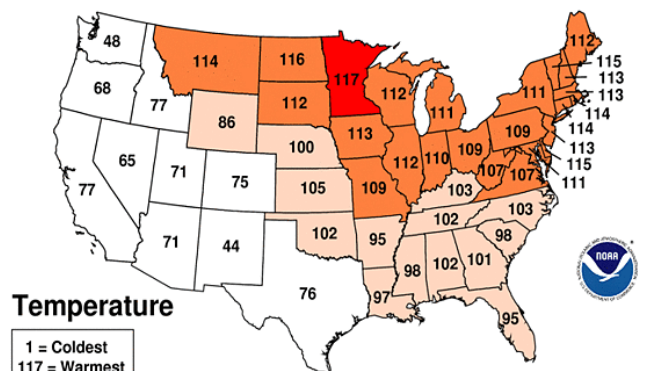
Town	January Temperatures
Nome	-16.6 °F
Bethel	-17.3 °F
McGrath	-28.5 °F
Bettles	-35.6 °F



U.S. Climate Highlights – Winter-to-Date

Dec 2011-Jan 2012 Statewide Ranks

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA

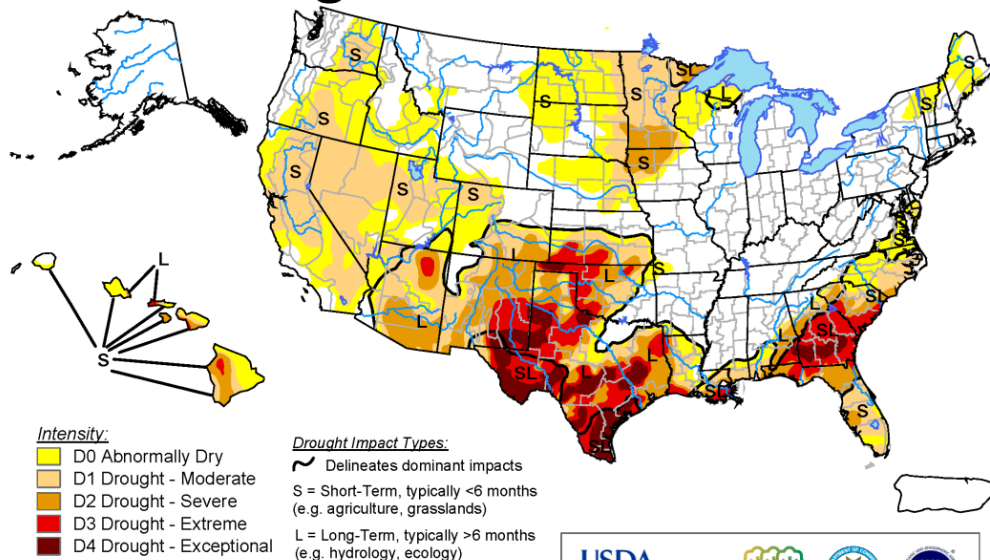


4th Warmest Winter-to-Date (Dec 2011- Jan 2012)

- Minnesota record warm for the period
- Much of the Northern U.S. warmer than average.
- Dry in the West – below-average snow pack
- 11th wettest Dec-Jan for Texas; Long-term drought lingers
- Drought expands in the West and intensifies across the Upper Midwest and Southeast

U.S. Drought Monitor

January 31, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



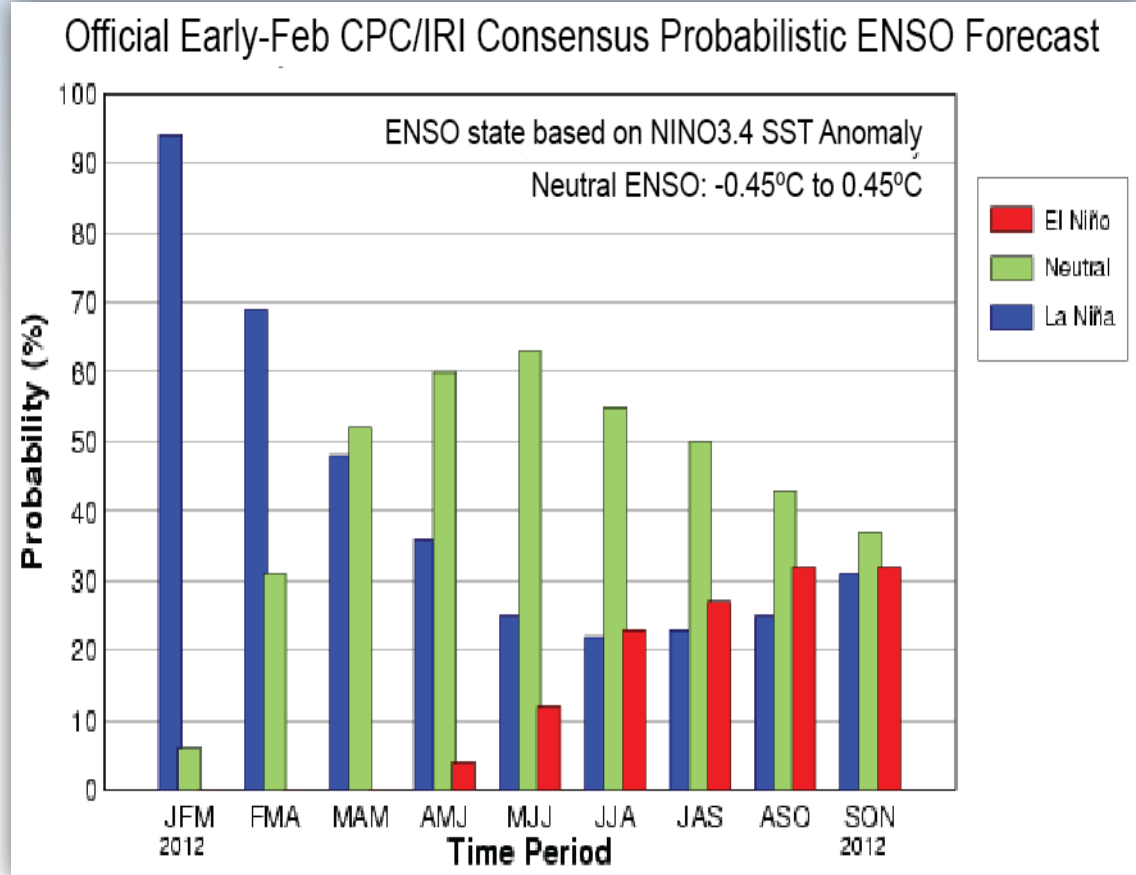
Released Thursday, February 2, 2012

Author: Eric Luebbehusen, U.S. Department of Agriculture

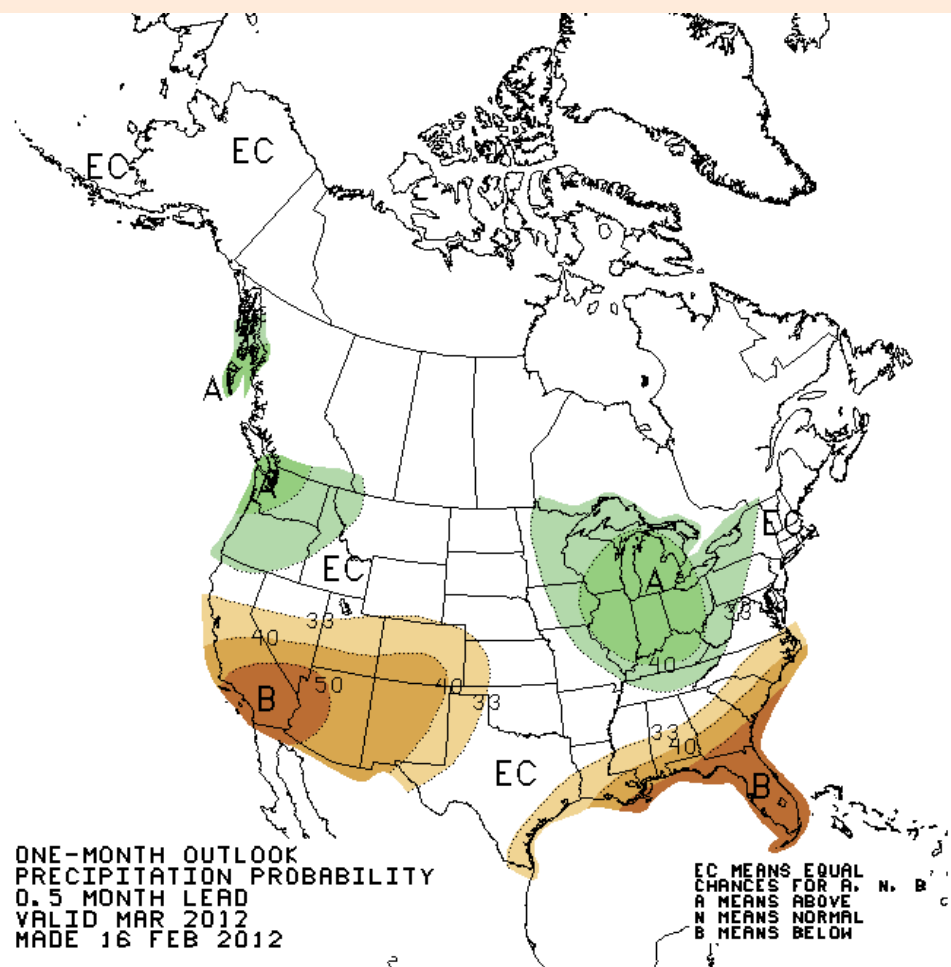
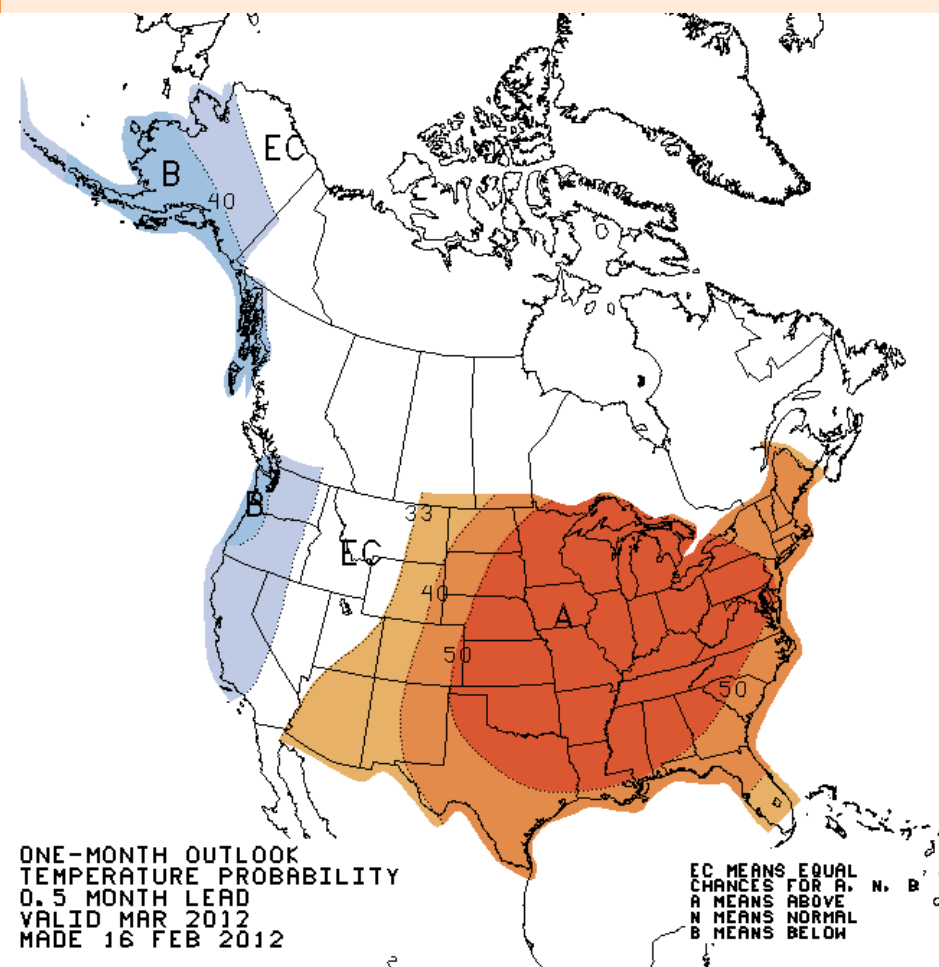
Current El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Status

La Niña Update

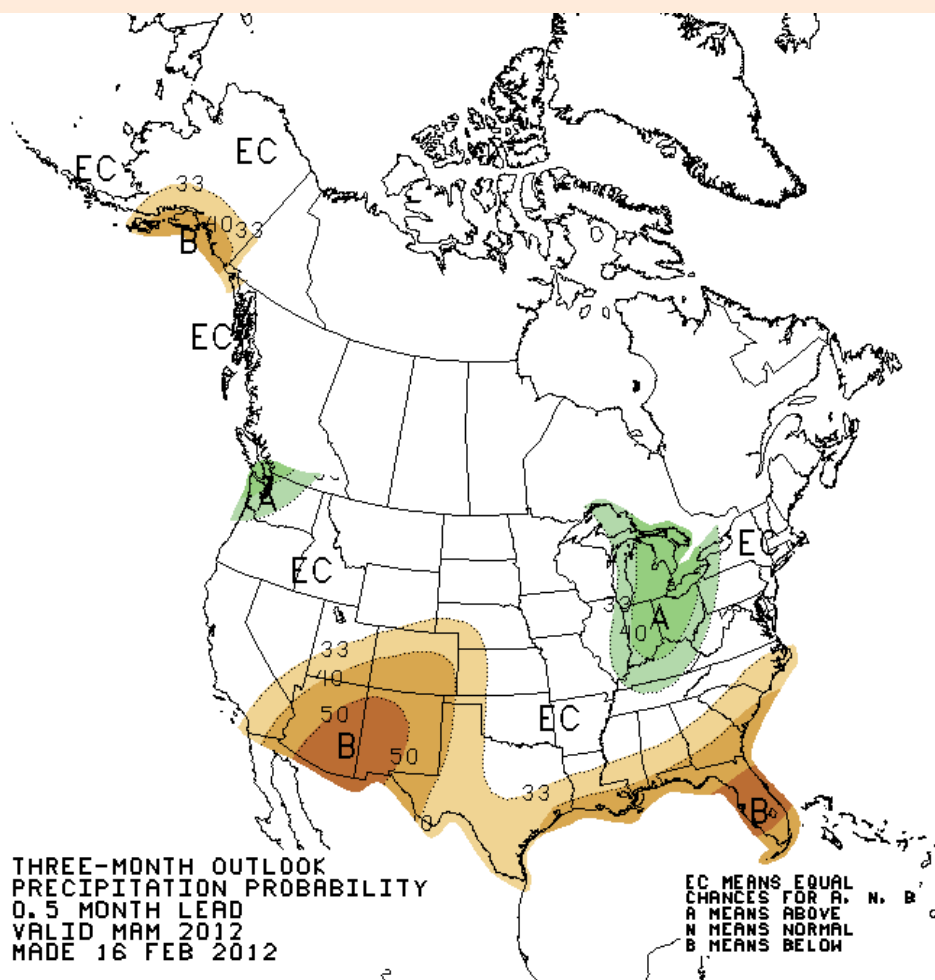
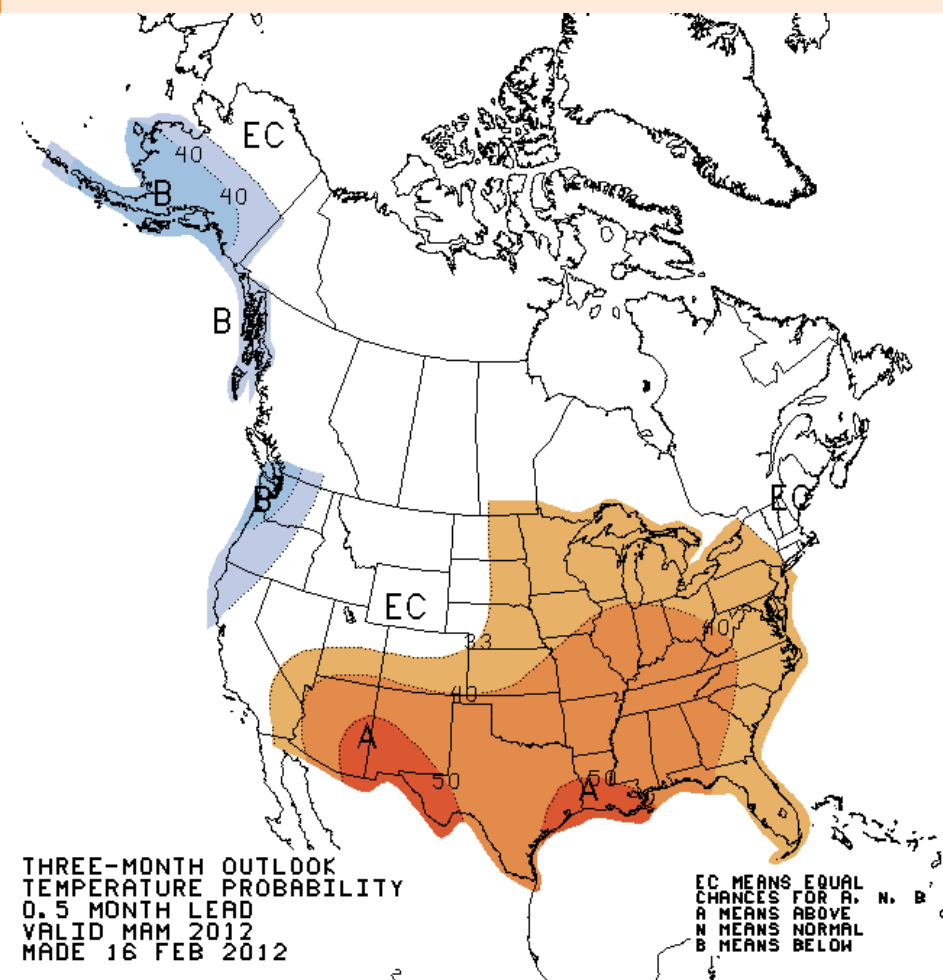
- La Niña has peaked across the equatorial Pacific
- SST are at least 0.5 C° below average across much of the Central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean
- Atmospheric circulation anomalies are consistent with La Niña
- La Niña is expected to transition to ENSO-neutral conditions during March-May 2012



1-Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

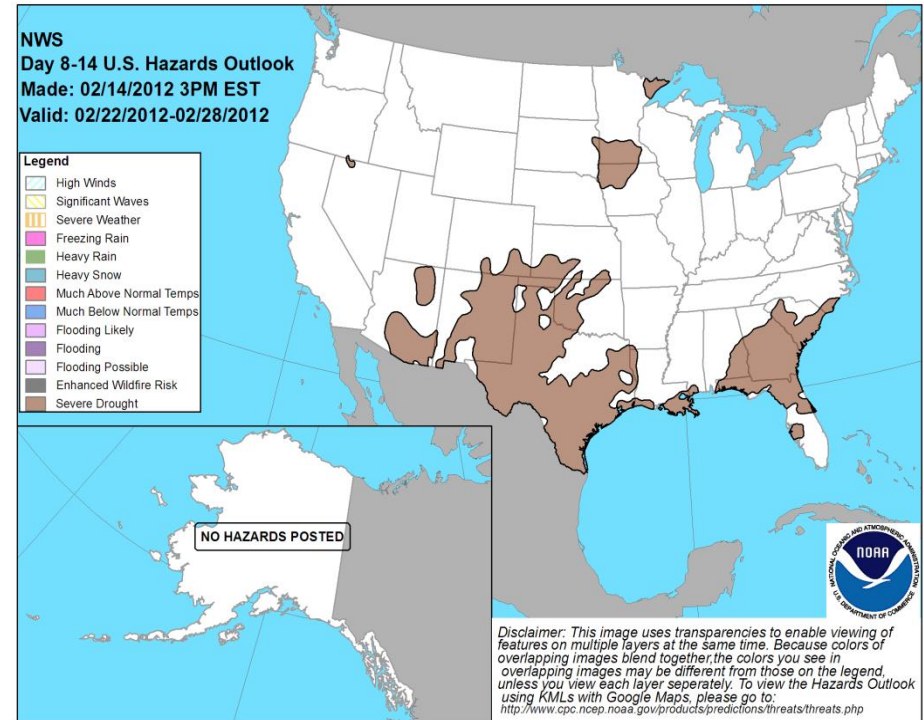
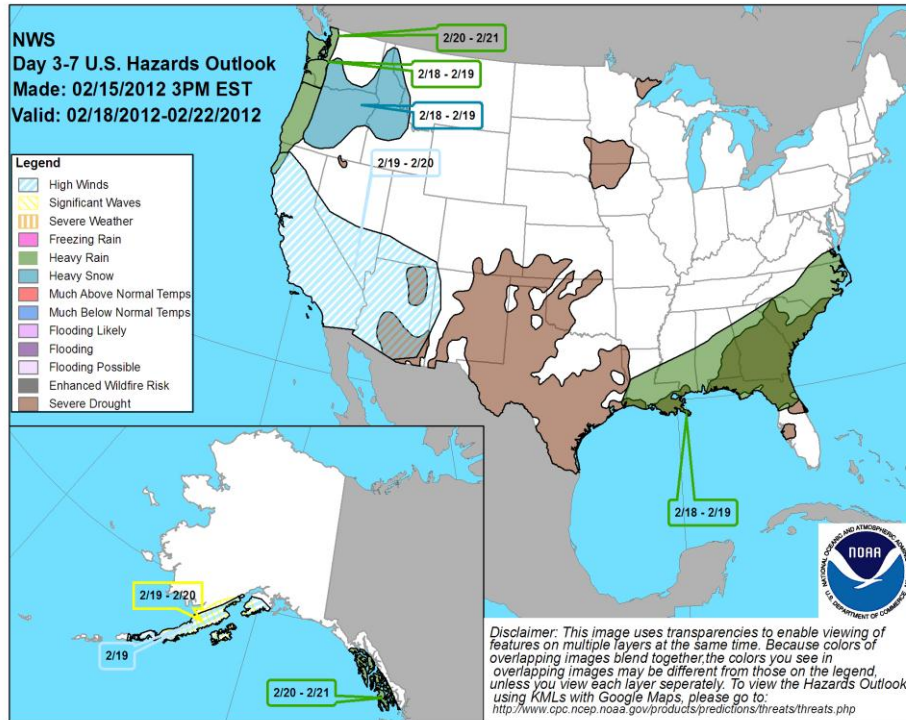


3-Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks



U.S. Hazards Outlook for Days 3-14

(produced 02/15/12)



For More Information



- Today's Presentation:
<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/briefings>
- NOAA's National Climatic Data Center: www.ncdc.noaa.gov
 - Monthly climate reports (U.S. & Global): www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/
- NOAA's Climate Prediction Center: www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov
- Climate Portal: www.climate.gov
- U.S. Drought Monitor: www.drought.gov